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## Press Release

**Press Release Announcement -- June 18, 2003 -- For Immediate Use**  
*For the electronic press release, please visit [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/)*

### Pennsylvania Maple Syrup Production Down 13 Percent

**HARRISBURG** - - - Pennsylvania's 2003 maple syrup production is estimated at 48,000 gallons, down 13 percent from last year's production of 55,000 gallons, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. The value of the syrup produced in 2002 is estimated at \$1.47 million, down from the \$1.75 million in the year 2001.

The number of taps in Pennsylvania totaled 364,000 during 2003 compared with 337,000 taps the year before. Pennsylvania's yield for the year 2003 averaged 0.132 gallons per tap, down from the 0.163 gallons per tap last year.

Nationally, maple syrup production in 2003 totaled 1.24 million gallons. Production was valued at \$38.4 million. The number of taps is estimated at 6.62 million, down 2 percent from 2002. The yield per tap is estimated to be 0.187 gallons, down from 0.206 gallons in 2002. The 2003 tapping season lasted an average of 50 days, compared to 52 days in 2002. Syrup color was mostly medium to dark. The sap's sugar content was higher than last year's with approximately 41 gallons of sap was required to produce a gallon of syrup, in contrast with 45 gallons in 2002.